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INT 877/1

DRAFT:R:FH:mvm 12-20-49

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MEMORANDUM

To: The Under Secretary
Via: S - Mr. Sheppard
From: W. Park Armstrong, Jr.

Subject: Suggested Topic for Discussion at Intelligence Meeting

Problem: To identify and if possible clarify the channel by which the President receives foreign intelligence of the following types:

- (a) Unevaluated intelligence information (e.g., CIA/OSO reports, telegrams, etc.);
- (b) Evaluated intelligence reports and estimates (e.g., OIR, CIA/ORE, G2);
- (c) Current intelligence summaries;
- (d) Special intelligence.

Discussion:

1. Presumably each agency of the Government, including CIA, is responsible for passing appropriate information and intelligence to the President. It appears, however, that no agency knows what information is passed by any other agency, which indicates that there almost surely are areas of duplication, and gaps.

2. There appears to be some misunderstanding with respect to CIA which, aside from responsibility for coordinated national intelligence,

has no

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has no area of subject-matter for which it is specifically responsible for informing the President, as is, for instance, the Army on military matters, the State Department on foreign affairs. At the same time, CIA, as a source of information and as an evaluation agency, has assumed the responsibility for submitting intelligence on all subjects, including those of particular responsibility to another agency.

3. With respect to raw, unevaluated intelligence information, the Department sends to the President some cables which involve policy and operational matters as well as intelligence. The military services presumably send a selection of their telegraphic intake.

4. With respect to evaluated reports and estimates, the Department furnishes the President only such reports as the Secretary and Under Secretary deem appropriate for him and this is an extremely limited number. It is not known what the military departments send to the President in the form of evaluated reports and estimates. CIA apparently sends all its reports, including those considered national intelligence, to the President.

5. With respect to current summaries, the Department sends the President a daily Summary (composed almost exclusively of information gleaned from State Department cables).

6. With respect to Special Intelligence. (For oral briefing.)

RECOMMENDATION:

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Recommendation:

1. That you have informal discussion of this question at a regular Tuesday afternoon intelligence meeting, for mutual information only, and with no attempt to identify or solve any problems.
2. That you consider inviting the following to be present, aside from the regular members of the meeting:

Admiral Souers

Mr. Humelsine

Mr. Barnes, S/S.

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